

MINUTES
EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

City Council Chamber

4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Council President Weld called the meeting to order. The following Council Members were present in-person: Jill Christopherson and Terry Weld. The following Council Members were present remotely: Emily Anderson, Emily Berge, Catherine Emmanuelle, Jeremy Gragert, David Klinkhammer, John Lor, Andrew Werthmann and Mai Xiong. The following Council Member was absent: Kate Beaton.

UPDATE

Update by Interim City Manager Solberg regarding City operations and local response during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered a resolution adopting the Consent Agenda for the following items of routine business on Tuesday, February 9, 2021:

- Adopting the Consent Agenda.
- Approving the Minutes of the January 26, 2021 Council Legislative Session and the February 2, 2021 Special Council Legislative Session.
- Granting new bartender licenses.
- Granting a new Secondhand Article Dealer license.
- Exempting the City of Eau Claire from the Chippewa County tax levy for library services.
- Authorizing the Fire Department to apply for Department of Homeland Security grant monies for the purchase of Automated Chest Compression Systems.
- Awarding a contract for Procurement No. 2021-02, County-Wide Communications Systems.
- Preliminary resolution declaring the City's intention to exercise its special assessment powers under Section 66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes, for street, utility, and sidewalk improvements, and directing the City Clerk to give notice of a hearing to be scheduled on the following streets:
 - Eddy Lane, Venus Avenue to Starr Avenue (21-103);
 - Lake Street, W. Grand Avenue to Fifth Avenue (21-106);
 - Omaha Street, Starr Avenue to McDonough Street (21-107);
 - Garfield Avenue, Park Avenue to State Street (21-104);
 - Wildwood Court, Woodridge Drive to North End (21-111).
 - Mitscher Avenue, Halsey Street to 325 Feet West (21-201).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Berge "to adopt the consent resolution." Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATION

President Weld read a proclamation celebrating the progress and efforts of Winter in Eau Claire by the Eau Claire Wintermission team and partners, and encouraging everyone to embrace Winter in Eau Claire while reminding each of us, along with our friends and neighbors, to stay active and involved throughout the year, no matter the season.

ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS

The Council considered a motion to reconsider a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the following alleys:

- Alley South of Broadway Street, Fifth Avenue to Fourth Avenue (21-501);
- Alley South of Broadway Street, Seventh Avenue to Sixth Avenue (21-502);
- Alley South of Broadway Street, Eighth Avenue to Seventh Avenue (21-503);
- Alley South of Altoona Avenue, Enterprise Street to East End (21-504);
- Alley East of Ninth Street, Platt Street to Vine Street (21-505);
- Alley East of Ninth Street, Maple Street to Walnut Street (21-506);
- Alley East of Ninth Street, Cedar Street to North End (21-507);
- Alley East of Eighth Street, Platt Street to Vine Street (21-508);
- Alley East of Bellinger Street, Fifth Avenue to Randall Street (21-509);
- Alley East of Doty Street, Emery Street to Seaver Street (21-511).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Emmanuelle “to reconsider the resolution,” with direction for postponement to the February 23, 2021 Council meeting. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PLATT STREET

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on Platt Street, Oxford Avenue to 150 Feet West (21-108). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Klinkhammer “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on the following streets:

- Barbara Jean Drive, Brookline Avenue to 1219 Barbara Jean Drive (21-101);
- Harless Road, Drier Road to 4033 Harless Road (21-200);
- Sundet Road, White Avenue to Lark Avenue (21-202);
- Abbe Hill Drive, STH 312 to Eddy Lane (21-300);
- Birch Street, Mt. Nemo Avenue to Eau Claire River Bridge (21-301);
- Galloway Street, N. Hastings Place to Birch Street (21-302);
- Kane Road, Folsom Street to STH 312 (21-112).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Lor and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to adopt the resolution.”

Council Member Christopherson requested that Kane Road, Folsom Street to STH 312 (21-112), be considered separately. No objection was voiced and said project was separated for consideration.

Council Member Berge requested that Barbara Jean Drive, Brookline Avenue to 1219 Barbara Jean Drive (21-101), be considered separately. No objection was voiced and said project was separated for consideration.

A vote was then taken “to adopt the resolution” with Project Nos. 21-101 and 21-112 separated. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Council Member Beaton joined the meeting.

BARBARA JEAN DRIVE

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on Barbara Jean Drive, Brookline Avenue to 1219 Barbara Jean Drive (21-101). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Xiong and seconded by Council Member Anderson “to adopt the resolution.”

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to amend the resolution” by deferring the special assessment for parcel no. 11-1603 owned by John Abel until such time as the parcel is developed, divided or sold. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to amend the resolution” by deferring the sidewalk on the north side until parcel no. 11-1603 or property to the east is developed. Council Member Klinkhammer made a friendly amendment to the amendment to clarify that sidewalk on the north side shall only be constructed at this time upon request of the owner; otherwise sidewalk on the north side shall be installed as future development requires, whether on the parcel or an adjacent parcel as connectivity necessitates. The friendly amendment was approved by the movers. A vote was then taken to “amend the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

A vote was then taken to “adopt the resolution” as amended. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

KANE ROAD

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on Kane Road, Folsom Street to STH 312 (21-112). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Beaton and seconded by Council Member Berge “to adopt the resolution.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Berge “to postpone” to the February 23, 2021 Council meeting. Said motion to postpone passed by unanimous vote.

SIDEWALK

The City Council considered a resolution ordering sidewalk to be repaired in accordance with Wisconsin Statute s. 66.0907 on the following streets:

- Abbe Hill Drive, STH 312 to Eddy Lane (21-300);
- Birch Street, Mt. Nemo Avenue to Eau Claire River Bridge (21-301).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Emmanuelle “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

SITE PLAN

The City Council considered a resolution approving a site plan in a P-Public district to allow for an expansion to the Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) Emergency Services Education Center (File PZ-2101). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Klinkhammer “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ZONING

The Council considered an ordinance rezoning property located at the 700 block of Water Street known as the Water Street Flats from RM to CBDP and to adopt the general development plan for two multi-level apartment buildings (Z-1678-20). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Lor and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to adopt the ordinance.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Council considered an ordinance rezoning property located at 3406 Melby Street from I-2 to C-3P and to adopt the general development plan with site plan for a convenience store with fuel and truck parking (Z-1681-21). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Xiong and seconded by Council Member Anderson “to adopt the ordinance.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Gragert, Klinkhammer, Lor, Weld and Xiong. Nay: Council Members Beaton and Werthmann.

ANNEXATION

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance annexing land to the City of Eau Claire located at Graff Road, Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, as shown on Planning Drawing No. 21-1A (Wurzer Builders Annexation (Petition #14361).

CLOSED SESSION

Council President Weld announced that upon a motion duly made and seconded, the City Council may go into closed session to review qualifications of candidates for the position of City Manager and deliberate regarding next steps in the search process, which is permitted in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 19.85 (1)(c). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Beaton and seconded by Council Member Berge to “convene into closed session.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

OPEN SESSION

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Xiong to “move into open session.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: February 9, 2021

Time: 7:54 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Terry L. Weld
Council President

/s/ Carrie L. Riepl
City Clerk